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Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BANGKO 04296 251220Z

12
ACTION EA-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 MMO-01 L-01 PM-03 SS-14 INR-05 SSO-00

INRE-00 /031 W
---------- 126843
O 251130Z FEB 76
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9102

S E C R E T BANGKOK 4296

STADIS//////////////////////////////

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MORG, TH
SUBJ: TERMS OF REFERENCE, THAILAND

REF: (A) STATE 040631; (B) 44623

1. EMBASSY APPRECIATES THE DEPARTMENT'S CONCERN (REF A)
IN CONNECTION WITH THE TERMS OF REFERENCE (TOR) FOR USSAT
AND THE OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT.

2. WE HAVE CAREFULLY CONSIDERED THE CHAIN OF COMMAND ARRANGE-
MENTS INVOLVED IN LIGHT OF THE VASTLY REDUCED FUNCTIONS AND
SIZE OF THE RESIDUAL US FORCES AND DO NOT BELIEVE THE AMBASSADOR'S
AUTHORITY WILL BE ERODED. MOREOVER, WE SUPPOSE ALMOST ANY
MILITARY CHAIN OF COMMAND FOR USSAT WOULD RAISE SIMILAR
QUESTIONS IN THEORY.

3. ON BALANCE, WE CONSIDER THE CURRENTLY PROPOSED TOR TO BE
MANAGEABLE AND ARE CONFIDENT THAT THE AMBASSADOR'S ABILITY
TO COORDINATE MISSION POLICY WILL NOT BE IMPAIRED BY VIRTUE
OF USSAT'S ADDITIONAL ROLES AS CINCPACREPTHAI AND USDR.

4. WE HOPE TOR WILL BE PROMPTLY APPROVED SO THAT MACTHAI
DISESTABLISHMENT AND USSAT ESTABLISHMENT CAN BE ACCOM-
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PLISHED ON MARCH 1.

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WHITEHOUSE

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NNN

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